

414 E. First Street · P.O. Box 970 · Newberg, OR 97132

Board of Directors  
Newberg School District 29J  
714 E 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Newberg, OR 97132

August 18, 2021

Dear Chair Brown and Directors:

On August 6, 2021, Newberg Mayor Rick Rogers submitted a letter to the Newberg School Board regarding the Board's planned action regarding flags in classrooms and the possibility of revisiting the district's anti-racism policy (copy attached).

The objective of the letter was to note that the school board's recent (and planned actions) impact not just the students, parents, teachers, and staff at our schools; the actions impact all Newberg residents (and possible future residents).

On August 16, the Newberg City Council voted (6 to 1) to affirm support of the position outlined in the mayor's letter. Given this, we the undersigned, feel the board's recent (and planned) actions make Newberg less welcoming which is a detriment to, and not reflective of, the character of our community. We hope you might reconsider your decisions.

Sincerely,

Elise Yarnell Hollamon  
Councilor District 1

Bryce Coefield  
Councilor District 4

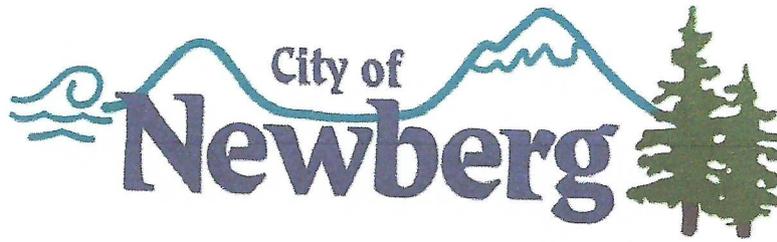
Julia Martinez Plancarte  
Councilor District 2

Stephanie Findley  
Council President, District 6

Denise Bacon  
Councilor District 3

Rick Rogers  
Mayor

Mayor's Office  
503-537-1276



Mayor's Fax  
503-537-5013

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Board of Directors  
Newberg School District 29J  
714 East 6th St  
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August 6, 2021

Dear Chair Brown, and Directors DeHart, Powell, and Shannon:

Imagine this if you will: a minority and/or woman owned business is looking to relocate. A traded-sector company, the business is eyeing Newberg as a location to expand. Their expansion will bring hundreds of family-wage jobs to our community.

Recruitment is going well. The company is very interested, the idled mill site looks very promising, and the Newberg-Dundee bypass is an added enticement.

Then the business owners see this:

[House Majority Leader Condemns Newberg School Board Attempt to Overturn Antiracist Policy](#)

Or this:

[BIPOC Caucus Condemns Newberg School Board Attempt to Overturn Antiracist Policy](#)

08/04/2021 02:15 PM PDT

Or this:

[www.opb.org/article/2021/08/03/oregon-legislature-bipoc-caucus-calls-out-newberg-school-board/](http://www.opb.org/article/2021/08/03/oregon-legislature-bipoc-caucus-calls-out-newberg-school-board/)

Did I say that the business hypothetically mentioned is minority and/or woman owned? How do you think they might feel?

City Mayor's Office: email: [rick.rogers@newbergoregon.gov](mailto:rick.rogers@newbergoregon.gov)  
"Working Together For A Better Community-Serious About Service"

If not a relocating business, then what about would-be residents of Friendsview, students of color at George Fox University, first year engineers hoping to join A-dec, or well-heeled visitors looking to spend their disposable income in our downtown?

While you may believe your actions only affect the school district, please know in truth your actions impact us all. To thrive, Newberg must be welcoming to all.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Rogers", written in a cursive style.

Rick Rogers  
Mayor